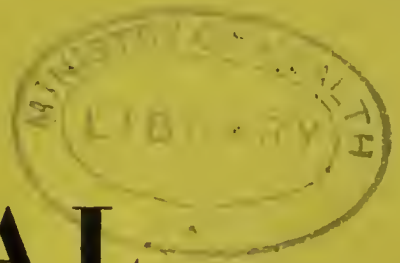


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CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1953**

BY

JOHN REID GRAHAM
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1953

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1953.

The vital statistics show little change from the previous year. The birth rate shows a slight increase but the infantile mortality rate is also increased.

No deaths have been recorded from the ordinary infectious diseases. There were no cases of diphtheria notified during the year, this has been the sixth year free from this disease.

Once again I take this opportunity of thanking the Council and my colleagues for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B.(St. And.), D.P.H. (St. And.).

Sanitary Inspector :

L. WILSON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Vital Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

POPULATION (Registrar-General's figures) 8,707

BIRTH RATE.

18·37 per 1,000 live births of the resident population.

18·60 per 1,000 live and still births.

DEATH RATE.

10·4 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

From Sepsis	Nil
-------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

From Other Causes	Nil
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INFANTILE DEATH RATE

All Infants per 1,000 live births	37·50
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Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births	..	38·46
---	----	-------

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	..	Nil
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Births in Clay Cross Urban District.

LIVE BIRTHS.

Males :	Total 98.	Legitimate 95.	Illegitimate 3.
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Females :	Total 62.	Legitimate 61.	Illegitimate 1.
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STILL BIRTHS.

Males :	Total 0.	Legitimate 0.	Illegitimate 0.
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Females :	Total 2.	Legitimate 2.	Illegitimate 0.
-----------	----------	---------------	-----------------

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

Males :	Total 3.	Legitimate 3.	Illegitimate 0.
---------	----------	---------------	-----------------

Females :	Total 3.	Legitimate 3.	Illegitimate 0.
-----------	----------	---------------	-----------------

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE.

Males :	Total 2.	Legitimate 2.	Illegitimate 0.
---------	----------	---------------	-----------------

Females :	Total 0.	Legitimate 0.	Illegitimate 0.
-----------	----------	---------------	-----------------

Causes of Death
In the Clay Cross District during 1953.

							Male	Female
All Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	36
Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	3
Coronary Disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	1
Hypertension with Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Other Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	8
Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0

Birth-Rates, Death-Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1953.

Provisional Figures Based on Quarterly Returns.

			England and Wales	160 C.B. & great towns (including London)	160 smaller towns (resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 census)	London Administrative County	Clay Cross U.D.C.
Rates per 1,000 Home Population.							
Births							
Live births	..	..	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	18.3
Still births	..	..	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.22
			22.4 (a)	24.8 (a)	21.4 (a)	21.0 (a)	12.3 (a)
Deaths							
All Causes	..	..	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	10.4
Typhoid & paratyphoid			0.00	0.00	—	—	0.00
Whooping Cough	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Tuberculosis	..	..	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.11
Influenza	..	..	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.00
Smallpox	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)			0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	..	..	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	0.22
Notifications (Corrected)							
Typhoid fever	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal infection			0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.22
Scarlet fever	..	..	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	2.87
Whooping Cough	..	..	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	9.30
Diphtheria	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	..	..	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.22
Smallpox	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	..	..	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	5.85
Pneumonia	..	..	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	1.95
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)							
Paralytic	..	..	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.00
Non-paralytic	..	..	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.00
Food Poisoning	..	..	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38	0.57
Puerperal pyrexia	..	..	18.23 (a)	24.33 (a)	12.46 (a)	28.61 (a)	6.17 (a)
Rates per 1,000 live Births.							
Deaths							
All causes under 1 year of age	..	..	26.8 (b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	37.5
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age			1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	18.7

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

Intermediate List No. and Cause	Number of Deaths	Rates per 1,000	
		Total (live & still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15—44
A115 Sepsis of pregnancy, child- birth and the puerperium ..	68	0·10	
A116 Abortion with toxæmia ..	7	0·01	1
Other toxæmias of preg- nancy and the puerperium	166	0·24	
A117 Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	90	0·13	
A118 Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ..	30	0·04	3
A119 Abortion, with sepsis ..	39	0·06	4
A120 Other complications of preg- nancy, childbirth and the puerperium	125	0·18	

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

Social Conditions of the District.

There has been no change from the previous years. As mentioned in last year's report the new Avenue Plant of the National Coal Board is likely to bring more residents to the district when it is in full operation. At present it has no impact as the work there is on construction and the employees of the contractors are temporary residents.

Water Supply.

The supplies during the year have been adequate and the quality has been satisfactory.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No new works have been carried out but the majority of the properties in the Ashover Road district have been connected.

Housing.

It was hoped that in 1953 a commencement would be possible to clear away the unfit properties in the urban area. This hope did not materialize, but in 1954 it is fairly certain that a start will be made in clearing the unfit houses. Two individual unfit houses were demolished during the year.

Building has proceeded on a satisfactory scale. The Council completed 81 houses during the year ; the N.C.B. 61 ; Clay Cross Co. 18 and private enterprise 12.

When the housing bill, at present before Parliament, becomes law one provision that the Clay Cross Council might well take advantage of is the proposed sanction to purchase houses in the demolition category at site value with a view to re-development.

One can visualise in the future as the clearance programme proceeds, areas in the town where large blocks have been demolished leaving gaps which, if not re-developed, will not enhance the amenities and will tend to leave in the centre of the town what, for want of a better description, one might term "derelict areas." Building in the centre of the town through restrictions of sites, etc., must of necessity be limited to a comparatively small number of houses, as it is only on the outskirts that there is room for large developments. I do consider, however, that re-building in the central areas is most desirable because when all the residential properties are removed from the central areas of a small town the whole place seems to lack "balance."

Infectious Diseases.

There have been no deaths from the ordinary infectious diseases. There was a slight increase in notifications of scarlet fever and whooping cough but measles, as was expected, showed a marked decrease, 51 cases being notified compared with 225 in 1952.

Five cases of food poisoning were notified. All occurred in one family and, though no definite source of infection could be proved, evidence pointed strongly to a family carrier who had contaminated a cooked "joint." The meat was consumed two days after cooking and was obviously the source of infection.

Diphtheria Immunisations.

	Under							Total
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9 (incl.)	10-14 (incl.)	
Number of children who had Primary Immunisations in the Authority's area during the year 1953	3	61	14	4	5	2	1	90

National Assistance Act, 1948.

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

No action was necessary under the above Acts.

Treatment Centre, Poolsbrook.

Number of cases, 110.

	Adults	5—15	Under 5	Total
SCABIES.				
Bolsover U.D.C. ..	1	1	1	3
Chesterfield Borough ..	7	5	2	14
Chesterfield R.D.C. ..	2	3	0	5
Clay Cross U.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ..	4	2	0	6
	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 28
HEAD LICE.				
Bolsover U.D.C. ..	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)
Chesterfield Borough ..	15 (7)	7 (4)	12 (7)	34 (18)
Chesterfield R.D.C. ..	0	25 (5)	1 (1)	26 (6)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ..	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)
Clowne R.D.C. ..	1 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)	5 (4)
Dronfield U.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ..	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	3 (3)
	<hr/> 17 (9)	<hr/> 36 (12)	<hr/> 17 (11)	<hr/> 70 (32)
SCABIES WITH VERMINOUS HEADS.				
Bolsover U.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Borough ..	0	1 (0)	1 (0)	2 (0)
Chesterfield R.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Clay Cross U.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ..	0	0	0	0
	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 1 (0)	<hr/> 1 (0)	<hr/> 2 (0)
Diagnosis not confirmed	6			
Miscellaneous	4			
Pediculosis Corporis ..	2	Chesterfield Borough, adults.		
Pediculosis Pubis ..	0			
	<hr/> 12			

NOTE.—The numbers in brackets refer to those on whom live lice were found.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1953.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Clay Cross Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Annual Report on the Work of the Health and Cleansing Department for the year 1953.

County Council Report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1953.

CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT.

Name of Inspector : L. WILSON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Estimated Population : 8,639. Estimated No. of Houses : 2,800.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

	No. on Register	Increase or Decrease	Inspections Made
Bakehouses	3	1	4
Canal Boats	—	—	—
Common Lodging Houses.. .. .	1	—	2
Dairies	11	—	—
Factories and Workplaces	28	—	18
Houses Let in Lodgings	1	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	29	3	8
Market Stalls	—	—	—
Milk Distributors	19	—	—
Moveable Dwellings (a) Sites	—	—	—
(b) Dwellings	1	—	—
Offensive Trades	1	—	2
Outworkers	1	—	—
Preserved Food Stores	19	—	19
Shops	153	—	3
Slaughterhouses	8	—	1
Knackers Yards	—	—	—

SAMPLING.

			RESULTS					
			No. of Samples		Meth. Blue Sat. Unsat.			
ICE CREAM	..	Nil			0	0		
MILK :								
					Meth. Blue Sat. Unsat.		Phosphatase Sat. Unsat.	
							Turbidity Sat. Unsat.	
(a) Routine	..	Nil.			0	0	0	0
(b) Biological		Nil.			Pos. 0	Neg. 0		
WATER :								
					Sat. Unsat.			
(a) Mains	..	3			3	0		
(b) Other Sources		13			11	2		
(c) Swimming Baths	..	Nil.			0	0		

WATER SUPPLIES.

						Estimated Population Involved	
No. of Houses in District connected to mains	..					2,775	8,600
No. of Houses in District supplied from stand-pipes on mains	..	..	..	..		7	25
No. of Houses in District not supplied from stand-pipes or mains	..	..	..	..		25	70
No. of connections made during year :—							
(a) existing houses	..	..	..	..		1	4
(b) new houses	..	..	..	..		173	
(c) other premises	..	..	..	..		3	

DRAINAGE.

						Estimated Population Involved	
No. of Houses in District connected to sewers	..					2650	8300
No. of Houses in District not connected to sewers						130	400
No. of connections made during year :—							
(a) existing houses	..	..	..	..		61	200
(b) new houses	..	..	..	..		173	
(c) other premises	..	..	..	..		3	
No. of conversions of other closets to W.C.'s	..					2	

HOUSING.

New Houses erected during year by :—

(a) Local Authority	81
(b) Private Enterprise	30
(c) Other local authorities ..	62 (C.I.H.A. for N.C.B.)

No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	55
No. of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	55
No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	11
No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action (formal or informal) by the Local Authority ..	57
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	28
No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted	Nil
No. of premises in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	Nil
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which application for Improvement Grants have been made during the year ..	Nil
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Improvement Grants were approved by the Ministry	Nil
No. of dwelling-houses " improved " during the year ..	Nil

(Signed): L. WILSON,

Date : 4.2.54

Sanitary Inspector.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928-1936.

Your Sanitary Inspector is responsible for the administration of the Petroleum Acts, which are mainly concerned with the storage of Petroleum Spirit and the licensing of such stores. Thirteen licences to store Petroleum Spirit are held in the Urban District providing for a storage capacity of 74,000 gallons. Licence fees amounted to £14 10s. Cd.

One licence held by the National Coal Board was not renewed because of the closing down of the Clay Cross Coke Ovens. One new licence was granted and another underground tank installed at a local garage. Both of these installations were approved by your Inspector.

Two licences were renewed for the storage of Calcium Carbide, the fees amount to 15s. 0d.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

One of the workmen of the Cleansing Department is employed as a part-time Rodent Operator and works under the direction of your Sanitary Inspector. Methods of rodent destruction approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are used.

A most noteworthy feature of the year has been the success of the new rodenticide Warfarin particularly against small infestations of rats and mice.

A sewer infestation of the flats on the east side of North Street was successfully cleared of rats.

The Annual Sewer Test was undertaken during August when eighteen manholes, selected to cover the whole sewered area of the Urban District, were baited with damp sausage rusk. It was most gratifying that negative results were obtained in every case.

The following treatments for Rats and Mice (excluding North Street flats) were carried out during the year :—

Refuse Tip	3
Bridge Street Depot	2
Sewerage Works	6
Dwelling-houses	20
Other Premises	14
	—
Total	45
	—

Housing.

1953 was a record year for house building in Clay Cross and the shortage of accommodation now appears to be within sight of solution. The Council have indicated that a vigorous policy of slum clearance will be followed. A Clearance Order for twenty-six houses was confirmed without modification after a Public Enquiry held on 16th September. As soon as these and other condemned houses are cleared other Areas will follow. The remaining three hutments on Chesterfield Road were cleared and this site is now derelict. A start has also been made by co-operation with the National Coal Board, in clearing forty-eight houses at the Blocks, Danesmoor which have been badly damaged by subsidence. Fourteen of these houses had been emptied by the end of the year. There is another class of houses which should not be neglected if the general standards of housing in the town are to be improved. I refer to the structurally sound houses which lack modern amenities such as hot water supplies and bathrooms. I suggest that in the coming year owners of this type of property should be encouraged to bring their houses up to modern standards by grants made under the 1949 Housing Act.

Sixty-two of the two hundred and ten houses to be erected by the Coal Industry Housing Association at Danesmoor were completed and occupied. Eighteen of the twenty Clay Cross Co. houses at Pilsley Road were completed and occupied.

Connections to the Ashover Road sewer were completed during the year. About 95% of the houses in Clay Cross are now connected to a sewer. It is to be hoped that 1954 will bring a sewerage scheme for Stretton Road, the only major unsewered area of the Urban District.

99% of the houses in the Area have a piped water supply, the remaining few houses would be difficult and very expensive to connect to water mains.

Public Cleansing Service.

The weekly collection of household refuse has been maintained in spite of the comparatively large number of new houses erected since the war. The number of bins emptied weekly has increased by about one third in the last six years. Most of these are on modern housing estates with long garden paths which slow the collections to a

very marked degree. The number of houses without proper dustbins continues to increase. No one will provide them and it is time this silly situation was resolved. The ever increasing number of dustbins means, however, that houses without proper dustbins will not get a regular service. Much the same thing applies to ashpits. Though their number has been reduced during the year there are still far too many, and regular attention can no longer be guaranteed.

The emptying of cesspools has been carried out reasonably satisfactorily. Priority was given to the Ashover Road district so that connections to the sewer were not hindered. The actual number of cesspools emptied showed only a slight decline on the previous year, but next year will reveal the benefits of the new sewer.

Street Cleansing in the centre of the town has been carried out regularly and efficiently. Another man with a street orderly will need to be employed if other areas of the town are to be kept in a reasonable condition — this was recommended by my predecessor four years ago. Since then the Holmgate Estate has been greatly extended and it is likely that the Coal Industry Housing Association's Estate will be taken over before the end of next year.

Two hundred and fifty-seven Street Gullies were cleansed during October by a Gully Emptier hired from Chesterfield Borough Council. This total does not include any gullies on County Roads.

Replacement of the Karrier Bantam Reguse Lorry has again been deferred. Maintenance and repair costs have again been heavy. This lorry will not serve throughout 1954 without extensive and expensive overhaul of both engine and bodywork. The demands on the Cleansing Services are such that it is essential that both lorries should be in first class condition. The new Dennis lorry continues to give very satisfactory service.

The two lorries have travelled nearly 14,700 miles and used 2,059 gallons of petrol in carrying out these services.

Absence through sickness remains at too high a level. The amount of time lost through sickness and absenteeism amounts to just over 14% of the total possible working hours. Just over 5½% of the time lost was paid sickness.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse disposal by controlled tipping has been carried out at the Chesterfield Road tip. It is estimated that more than 3,000 tons of refuse are collected and disposed of annually.

It has again been possible to devote some attention to the appearance of the tip and about an acre of ground has been ploughed in preparation for sowing oats next spring. Samples of soil were taken by the Derbys. Agricultural Executive Committee who then advised on the crop to be grown and the fertilisers to be used. The area of cultivable land is increasing annually and the site will have great possibilities for playing fields in the years to come.

Cricket infestation was kept under control by dressings with an insecticide containing DDT. Rats have ceased to be a problem. Small re-infestations do occur from time to time but prompt treatment eliminates them.

Two men were fined £2 2s. 0d. each, including costs, on the 27th November at Clay Cross Petty Sessions on charges under Sec. 76 of the Public Health Act 1936. ~~Two men were fined £2 2s. 0d. each, including costs, on the 27th November at Clay Cross Petty Sessions on charges under Sec. 76 of the Public Health Act 1936.~~

~~Two men were fined £2 2s. 0d. each, including costs, on the 27th November at Clay Cross Petty Sessions on charges under Sec. 76 of the Public Health Act 1936.~~
I hope that these cases will be something of a deterrent to other offenders trespassing on the tip.

Collections.

Number of dustbins (weekly)	..	..	2,950
Number of privies (collected at intervals)	..	..	57
Number of pails (weekly)	..	..	14
Number of cesspools emptied (as required)	..	..	167

Salvage.

The slump in the waste paper market continued into the second half of the year and the price of baled mixed waste paper fell to £5 a ton. Waste paper was difficult to move and several tons were burned because of lack of storage space. The market began to recover during

the summer and all accumulated stocks were disposed of by the Autumn. Prices recovered to £6 a ton by the end of the year. Our waste paper merchants failed entirely to honour their contract with the Council. It is to be hoped that a more stable market will prevail in the coming year.

The following table shows the fluctuations in the amounts and value of paper collected annually since salvage operations were inaugurated on the 1st April 1940 :—

Year	Tonnage Collected		Value		
	Tons	Cwts.	£	s.	d.
1940	24	0	96	2	0
1941	93	13	381	14	7
1942	76	14	437	10	4
1943	53	6	353	5	8
1944	59	13	403	16	1
1945	50	16	338	9	1
1946	60	4	395	0	0
1947	56	3	392	16	1
1948	83	19	576	9	8
1949	36	16	245	4	5
1950	49	8	274	10	0
1951	85	8	1,192	12	11
1952	65	17	685	3	6
1953	70	8	404	8	11
Total	866	5	£6,177	0	3

Salvage Materials, 1953.

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	70	8	3	404	8	11
Loose Tins	33	7	0	51	0	9
Scrap Iron	2	4	0	13	8	0
Cullet	1	0	0	1	2	4
Rags		15	1	6	19	7
Miscellaneous (Bottles, Jars, etc.				6	10	3
Total	107	15	0	£ 483	9	10

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

The two private slaughterhouses have not been used by the Ministry of Food this year. Supplies of fresh meat usually come from Chesterfield Abattoir but facilities there are inadequate during peak slaughtering periods.

Condemned Canned and Other Foodstuffs.

Ham (Cooked, Boneless)	24 tins	Pork	11 lbs.
—total weight 299 lbs.		Skirt	2 "
Tomatoes	80 "	Beast Head ..	39 "
Fruit (various) ..	332 "	Sausages ..	44 "
Sardines	601 "	Cheese.. ..	94 "
Fish (various) ..	13 "	Butter	8½ "
Milk	32 "	Kippers ..	14 "
Cream	96 "	Smoked Haddock	10 "
Soups (various) ..	55 "	Jellies	125 pkts.
Meats (various) ..	43 "	Pudding Mixture	5 "
Vegetables (various)	81 "	Preserves ..	2 tins
Other Foodstuffs ..	3 "	Cheese.. ..	1 pkt.

The large number of tins of sardines are mainly French Moroccan Sardines in Oil and Tomato imported by the Ministry of Food. During March in the course of routine sampling the County Analyst found many of these sardines to be seriously contaminated with tin. In conjunction with the County Sampling Officer all grocers' shops in the area were visited and stocks of these sardines were condemned. The County Analyst persuaded the Ministry of Food to examine carefully any further stocks before release to distributors.

Ice Cream.

Two premises are registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947, but only small quantities of Ice Cream were manufactured during 1953.

During the year four premises were registered under the Food and Drugs Act 1938, for the sale of pre-packed Ice Cream.

The total number of premises in the district registered for the sale of Ice Cream is now twenty-nine.

Milk Supply.

As from the 1st January 1954 a large part of North Derbyshire (including the whole of the Urban District) became a Specified Area. This means that only designated milks (Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised) may be retailed in this area. Accredited Milk is allowed to be sold until 30th September 1954. The Ministry of Food states that taking into account other areas already specified, the milk supplies of 48% of the population of England and Wales consist wholly of "special designated" milk.

There are twenty producers of Milk in the Urban District, three of which are producer-retailers. Nineteen distributors of milk are registered with this Authority, seven of them with premises outside the Urban District. Thirteen licences to retail Tuberculin Tested milk, eleven licences to retail Pasteurised milk, one licence to retail Sterilised milk and one licence to retail Accredited Milk (until 30.9.54) were granted or renewed during the year.

Sampling.

Statutory sampling is carried out by Officers of Derbyshire County Council. The following information has been supplied by the County Analyst, Mr. R. W. Sutton, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.C.S. :—

" Fifty-nine samples including thirteen milks were taken under the Food and Drugs Act 1938 in the area of the Clay Cross Urban District Council during the year 1953. All fifty-nine samples were classed as satisfactory. Work in the County Laboratory during the year disclosed serious metallic contamination in French Moroccan Sardines in Tomato. Stocks were found to be widespread and your collaboration with the County Sampling Officer in the examination and condemnation of faulty stock undoubtedly led to the removal of a potential danger to health."

Factories Act 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS—

Premises	No.	Inspections
Factories with mechanical power ..	31	18
Factories without mechanical power	4	2
Other premises under the Act ..	3	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38	26

2. No defects were found or referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

The above measure was a private members bill which came into force on the 14th August. There are a number of important points :—

1. A Local Authority may establish a Renewal and Repairs Fund.
2. Gives power to a Court (on appeal) to decide whether landlord or tenant shall provide a dustbin.
3. Gives power to make a Closing Order on a house instead of a Demolition Order.

Yours faithfully,

L. WILSON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

James W. Pettie & Son, Printers, Clay Cross.